

**ESB 5583** - H COMM AMD

By Committee on Children & Family Services

ADOPTED 04/11/2005

1 Strike everything after the enacting clause and insert the  
2 following:

3 "NEW SECTION. **Sec. 1.** A new section is added to chapter 26.44 RCW  
4 to read as follows:

5 (1) Within existing resources, the department shall develop a  
6 curriculum designed to train staff of the department's children's  
7 administration who assess or provide services to adolescents on how to  
8 screen and respond to referrals to child protective services when those  
9 referrals may involve victims of abuse or neglect between the ages of  
10 eleven and eighteen. At a minimum, the curriculum developed pursuant  
11 to this section shall include:

12 (a) Review of relevant laws and regulations, including the  
13 requirement that the department investigate complaints if a parent's or  
14 caretaker's actions result in serious physical or emotional harm or  
15 present an imminent risk of serious harm to any person under eighteen;

16 (b) Review of policies of the department's children's  
17 administration that require assessment and screening of abuse and  
18 neglect referrals on the basis of risk and not age;

19 (c) Explanation of safety assessment and risk assessment models;

20 (d) Case studies of situations in which the department has received  
21 reports of alleged abuse or neglect of older children and adolescents;

22 (e) Discussion of best practices in screening and responding to  
23 referrals involving older children and adolescents; and

24 (f) Discussion of how abuse and neglect referrals related to  
25 adolescents are investigated and when law enforcement must be notified.

26 (2) As it develops its curriculum pursuant to this section, the  
27 department shall request that the office of the family and children's  
28 ombudsman review and comment on its proposed training materials. The  
29 department shall consider the comments and recommendations of the

1 office of the family and children's ombudsman as it develops the  
2 curriculum required by this section.

3 (3) The department shall complete the curriculum materials required  
4 by this section no later than December 31, 2005.

5 (4) Within existing resources, the department shall incorporate  
6 training on the curriculum developed pursuant to this section into  
7 existing training for child protective services workers who screen  
8 intake calls, children's administration staff responsible for assessing  
9 or providing services to older children and adolescents, and all new  
10 employees of the children's administration responsible for assessing or  
11 providing services to older children and adolescents.

12 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 2.** A new section is added to chapter 26.44 RCW  
13 to read as follows:

14 (1) The department shall review a sampling of the screening  
15 decisions by child protective services related to children between the  
16 ages of eleven and eighteen on a quarterly basis through June 30, 2007.  
17 The sampling shall consist of not less than the proportionate share of  
18 the two and one-half percent of all screening decisions regularly  
19 reviewed by the department that are related to children between the  
20 ages of eleven and eighteen. The sampling shall be representative of  
21 the diversity of screening decisions related to children between the  
22 ages of eleven and eighteen.

23 (2) The department shall use the results of the quarterly reviews  
24 required by this section to improve practice and to improve the  
25 curriculum required by section 1 of this act. The department shall  
26 also report to the governor and the appropriate committees of the  
27 legislature on the quarterly reviews required by this section on August  
28 1, 2006, and August 1, 2007."

29 Correct the title.

EFFECT: Provides that the curriculum to be developed by the  
Department of Social and Health Services (DSHS) is to be developed  
within existing resources.

Provides that, within existing resources, DSHS is required to  
incorporate training on the developed curriculum into existing training

for Child Protective Services (CPS) workers who screen intake calls, Children's Administration (CA) staff responsible for assessing or providing services to older children and adolescents, and all new employees of the CA responsible for assessing or providing services to older children and adolescents.

Limits the sampling of screening decisions by CPS to be reviewed from 30 percent to a sampling consisting of not less than the proportionate share of the two and one-half percent of all screening decisions regularly reviewed by DSHS that are related to children between the ages of 11 and 18. The sampling must be representative of the diversity of screening decisions related to children between the ages of 11 and 18.

Requires DSHS to report to the Governor and the appropriate committees of the Legislature on the quarterly reviews on August 1, 2006, and August 1, 2007.

Removes the emergency clause.

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